GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1283
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2000
DISCHARGE OF EFFLUENTS
BRAJ MOHAN RAM

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry into the aspect of barrenness of land and water saline due to effluents being discharged by the Bihar Caustic and Chemicals Ltd. at Rehela in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of instructions issued to the said company in this regard; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the people in the area from pollution?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a), (b) & (c) Yes Sir. Based on the enquiry, directions were issued under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to the company for taking measures to control pollution. The directions/instructions issued to the company pertained to the supply of piped/tanker drinking water to the affected areas, removal of caustic tanks from the railway station, making necessary arrangements for covered storage of salt and providing of a railway line/railway siding from the station to industry`s premises.

(d) The steps taken to protect the people in the area from pollution include the following:-

- The industry has complied with the direction to adhere to zero discharge of effluent.

- The industry is supplying drinking water through tankers to the affected areas, in addition to the piped water supply system commissioned by the industry.

- The caustic storage tanks at Rehela Railway Station and the nearby areas are kept cleaned and this storage facility is used only for a limited period. The work regarding the construction of railway siding is in progress.